MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Conversation with

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Armaments Acquisitions by Less Developed Countries

that who had retired as an Agency employee, was now working for "Butch" Fisher, ACDA, and would get in touch with me to discuss arms acquisitions by less developed countries.

2. called the same day to make an appointment for the following afternoon, 25 May, at 2:15p.m. in my office.

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3. A check with Security by the ORR Administrative Staff showed to be cleared through Top Secret.

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- 4. As arranged, I conferred with above subject on 25 May in my office for about an hour. He led off by stating that he was initiating a study for the Economics Bureau of ACDA, of the acquisition of conventional arms by less developed countries of the Free World. ACDA, he indicated, was acting in response to a staff study by Bator, which recommended that a central control point in the government be established for the monitoring of information on international arms transfers, particularly transfers to the above mentioned nations.
- 5. Is in the process of thinking through the scope and implications of the problem, which he views in a preliminary way as including topics such as:
 - a. Kinds of information available.
 - b. Development of a check list with an appropriate cutoff on weapons by type (e.g., to include all small arms or only automatic hand weapons).
 - c. Gaps in information.

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- 6. He is not yet sure what information is required and has not yet ascertained what ACDA plans to do with the information that is collected. He believes that ACDA intends first to survey the information available and then to consider the role which it might play in bringing this information to bear on policy decisions. He judges, moreover, that ACDA lacks the capability to analyze raw information, and may find it more desirable to collect finished intelligence on the subject.
- 7. In this connection, I briefed 25X1A generally on the work done by ORR in monitoring military assistance provided by Communist countries to the less developed nations. I suggested also that instead of looking at the problem in terms of acquisitions, ACDA might find it more efficient to proceed from the OB estimates, which are maintained on the Free World by DIA. agreed that this approach might 25X1A simplify the problem.
- 8. The specific assistance. Commitments to date: None.

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Senior Intelligence Officer for Liaison Arms Control and Disarmament

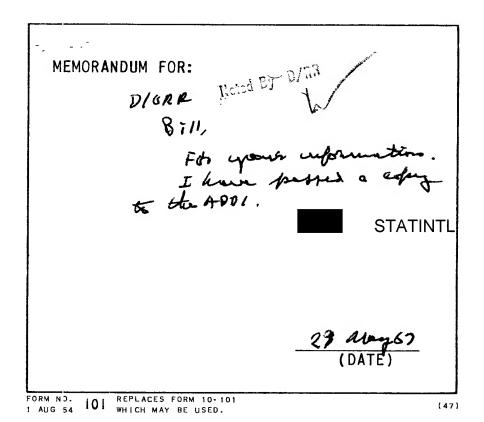
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30 March 1967

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MEMORANDUM FOF: Director of Research and Reports

SUBJECT

: Current MRA Work Related to Arms Control

Discussions

- 1. This memorandum is to update you on the status of MRA work related to the current Arms Control discussions, and requests further guidance if deemed necessary.
- 2. I am scheduled to brief a group of senior ACDA personnel on April 4th (Tuesday) on our current cost estimates for selected Soviet military programs and the methodology employed in reaching them.
 - a. The ACDA request was for "specific cost data on Soviet strategic offensive and defensive weapons systems, with particular emphasis on ICBM and ABM programs. Estimated numbers and costs of these weapons systems over the next five years, as well as overall military budget estimates, should be included ... Separate estimates on the cost of the Moscow ABM and Tallinn defensive missile systems if available, would be of particular interest."

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- b. This briefing was requested in early February through and has been reported and carried under our Project M-385. There was a question originally as to deferral until after the detailed costing computations for the NIPP and for NIE 11-4-67 had been completed. However, ACDA staff personnel indicated it would be useful if the briefing could be presented earlier even though based on preliminary data.
- c. It is understood by ACDA that the briefing will be for background and does not necessarily represent a official view of the Agency or the community as will the NIPP and the forthcoming NII;

- d. We were asked supplementarily whether we would give projections under various arms control assumptions such as a freeze (offensive and defensive) at present levels; a "thin" AFM deployment; and a "forced-draft" deployment in all-out competition with the US. We do not have detailed data computed along these various lines, and I would expect to discuss only programs based on present trends and indicate in a very general way the kind and magnitude of shifts which would take place under the other assumptions.
- 3. In many respects it would be preferable to set the ACDA briefing aside until the detailed computations on the NIPP and NIE 11-4 were completed and more time were available to analyze various factors and alternatives. However, a briefing next week is particularly timely for ACDA. As things stand now we have been able to put together a preliminary version of what we expect will be the general series for the NIPP and NIE. I would like to have additional policy guidance/confirmation that it is appropriate to provide a background briefing based on preliminary data of our cost estimates for Soviet military programs in general, and the strategic offensive and defensive systems in particular.
- 4. I am also having work done on a request from to draft a background memorandum on the impact of a freeze on Soviet military budget/expenditures. (This has been reported on the WPR as M-419). The memorandum will discuss:

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- a. some of the general considerations involved;
- b. the general magnitude of resources which would be released under moratorium terms:
- c. the transferability of funds (resources) to other military programs (such as R&D) or to other (nonmilitary) uses.

I intend to use data being worked up for the ACDA briefing as the basic background material. requested a draft by 3-4 April, and

25X1A is working on this with a deadline of 31 March. I intend to send it to you and to ERA for review-coordination on Monday. The request which came to was from Dwyne Anderson, ISA(OSD). expected to send the memorandum to McNaughton through Anderson with

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expected to send the memorandum to McNaughton through Anderson with copies to the ICI, to Foster (ACDA) and probably to Ray Garthoff, with a comment that this memorandum was for background use and represented

some thinking in the Agency on this topic.

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4. The timing of both the briefing and the paper requested by leaves very little room for detailed review or extensive coordination. As things stand now we will be doing well to have the work completed in time. If you have additional guidance we should discuss this in more detail.

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Chief, Military-Economic Research Area, ORR

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